

Today in Corps history:
March 5, 1947: The 7th Marine Regiment disbanded and transferred to the 3rd Marine Brigade.

Source: Marine Corps History

FAST FACT



District News: Marine gains discipline, loses weight, see Page 3

Sports: Bulls dominate Celtics 15-4, remain undefeated, see Page 4

Feature: Depot ATCs earn recognition in awareness month, see Page 5

THE BOOT

“We Make Marines”

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Serving the Marines and Sailors of MCRD/ERR Parris Island, S.C.

March 5, 2004

Depot News

PIOSC OFFERS SPOUSE, STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

The Parris Island Officer's Spouses' Club is accepting applications for their scholarships for high school seniors and spouses. Student applications can be obtained from high school guidance counselors and spouse applications can be obtained from the Base Education Center or the Parris Island Library. The application deadline is March 31.

For more information, e-mail smbjordan3@yahoo.com.

TRANSITION OFFICE HOSTS CAREER DAY

The Transition Office and Marine Corps Community Services-South Carolina are sponsoring the 2nd Annual Career Day at the Lyceum from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tuesday. Several law enforcement agencies, the Secret Service, Beaufort County counsel and human resources, state agencies and staffing agencies will be in attendance.

For more information contact Kerry Copeland at 228-276.

DEPOT TAX CENTER OPEN FOR FILING

The Depot Tax Center, located in the Combat Finance building, is open Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. - noon.

For information, call 228-4581.

NMCRS TO HOST GOLF TOURNAMENT MARCH 26

The Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society will host a captain's choice golf tournament at The Legends of Parris Island March 26. Registration is \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members and includes green and cart fees. Mulligans will be sold at check in which begins at 9:30 a.m. The shotgun start is at 11 a.m.

To register, contact Master Sgt. Michael Fisher at 228-2592.

Out in Town

CLASSIC CAR CLUB ROLLS PAST BEAUFORT

On Wednesday, The Classic Car Club of America Old South Caravan will be traveling through Beaufort to Savannah with 110 beautifully restored cars from 1925 through 1948 including Rolls Royce, Bentley, Duesenberg, Stutz Marmon, Pierce-Arrow and Packard. The club will also be on the Depot March 21.

For information, contact Bill or Chris Snyder at (904) 794-9870.

HARDEEVILLE HOSTS ANNUAL POWWOW

The annual Hardeeville Native American Powwow is scheduled for March 13-14, from 10 a.m. - 10 p.m., at the Millstone Landing.

The powwow is a celebration of the cultures and traditions and will feature dancing, storytelling, pottery-making and basket-weaving demonstrations.

Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for seniors and children. For more information, call Mike Benton at 784-2886.

Weather



Friday Cloudy
Hi 82 Low 59
Saturday
Scat. T-storms
Hi 73 Low 43
Sunday
Scat. Showers
Hi 68 Low 51

Inside



RTR sweeps semi-finals, finals of intramural play

RTR defeated Naval Hospital 43-30 and 51-36 to win the 2004 Tri-Command Intramural Basketball Playoff Championship at the Air Station's Paul ...

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Mac pins on a stripe...



Cpl. Jennifer Brofer

Colonel George S. Amland, commanding officer for H&SBn., presents Lance Cpl. Mac, the Depot mascot, with his promotion warrant after pinning on the rank of lance corporal in a ceremony at the Iron Mike statue Monday. Mac was promoted after serving eight months time in grade. Along with attending morning colors and graduations, Mac's responsibilities include visiting with guests on Thursdays in the Visitors Center and making morale visits to recruits.

LES changes, avoids identity theft threat

CPL. JENNIFER BROFER

STAFF WRITER

Representatives from the Federal Trade Commission reported that identity theft topped their list of complaints received in 2003 with nearly 215,000 complaints, a 33 percent increase from the previous year.

In light of this growing trend, Leave and Earning Statements for service members and DoD civilians, as



“It's a battle trying to keep up with the people who want to break into your personal information system.”

-Bill Knepp, manager for Navy Federal Credit Union

well as paychecks for military retirees, eliminated a few key numbers.

Many service members probably already noticed

that the Defense Finance and Accounting Service dropped the first five numbers of a person's social security number from all

LESs and pay checks to guard against identity theft, which the FTC estimated affected one in eight U.S. adults in 2003.

“The changes apply to everyone,” according to Bryan Hubbard, spokesman for DFAS, who added that the proposal “originated internally and will be phased in over the next couple of pay periods.”

Identity theft is when someone uses your name and

see FRAUD, Page 3

Sailors volunteer to help students

CPL. ALISHA R. FITZGERALD

STAFF WRITER

Sailors from the Depot Naval Dental Center, Branch Medical Clinic and Naval Hospital Beaufort recently teamed up to adopt Robert Smalls Middle School to provide students with tutoring, mentoring and any other volunteer work needed at the school.

The sailors met with guidance counselors at the school Feb. 20 to receive a brief on the intricacies of the program and student assignments, and sailors began meeting with their students Monday.

After helping administer the Palmetto Achievement Challenge Test last year at the school, school administrators decided to look to the sailors for help again this year.

“Once we did that, they called and thanked us for it and indicated that they would need help this year, saying they actually needed all the help they could get,” said Master Chief William Green, Command Master

Chief, NDC. “At that time, we decided that if they needed the help and the people here were interested in doing work as volunteers, then we could get them help with the students.”

Help with the students includes working as tutors for those students who may need extra help in their studies. Before student assignments were given to the sailors, the guidance counselors had already determined which ones would need the extra attention.

“Some of the students were identified and considered ‘at risk,’ either academically or because of some circumstances, socially,” said Green.

The sailors will be participating in Robert Smalls’ “Lunch Buddy” program, which is a type of mentoring program, designed to help the students who were designated as socially at risk.

“The program pairs students with a sailor and allows that sailor to get to

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Lance Cpl. Brian Kester

Sergeant Edward R. Ferguson, a drill instructor with Platoon 1033, Alpha Company, 1st RTBn., receives the Bronze Star with a combat ‘V’ device from Lt. Col. Keith L. Cieri, Commanding Officer, 1st RTBn., inside a platoon squadbay Feb. 26.

Marine awarded Bronze Star

LANCE CPL. BRIAN KESTER

STAFF WRITER

The recruits of Platoon 1033 have a hero in their midst, a man who has achieved what some can only dream of achieving -- a Bronze Star for actions on the battlefield. The heroic efforts displayed by this Marine in battle are a direct result of a humble man who was only “out there doing the job.”

Sergeant Edward R. Ferguson, drill instructor with Platoon 1033, Alpha Company, 1st RTBn., was presented with the Bronze Star for his actions during Operation Iraqi Freedom from March to April 2003.

As the section leader, Combined Anti-Armor team, Weapons Company, 2nd Battalion, 8th Marines, Task force Tarawa, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Fer-

guson's courage and guidance were responsible for the sections success. With 15 Marines in his charge and under heavy enemy fire, Ferguson led his Marines on a two-day flanking mission, screening the entire battalion against elements of the Iraqi 51st Mechanized Division. He was also successful defending

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